

DEMOCRATIC BANNER.

MINOR & MURRAY, Editors.

"If thou hast truth to utter, Speak! and leave the rest to God!"—GALLAHER.

A. J. PICHENS, Publisher.

Volume 1.

LOWLING-GREEN, PIKE COUNTY, MO., SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1845.

Number 30.

THE BANNER.

C—The Spirit of War!—Our exchange papers are filled with news of "war and rumours of war," and if their contents be an index of popular feeling the "spirit of the country is high." The capture of Santa Fe is now confidently spoken of, and many noble spirits are now waiting in anxious suspense for an order from the proper authorities to march immediately upon Santa Fe. Major Bogy (we suppose) of St. Louis, has already signified his willingness to march with a band of volunteers prepared to submit to the rigid discipline of the regular army from the frontier of this State upon the 1st of October, so as to make an attack upon Santa Fe early in December.

C—The Expositor has accounts from Oregon and California, up to the middle of April last. The new settlers had then abundant and promising crops growing, but were fearful of an attack from hostile Indians during the ensuing winter. Many of the emigrants were decidedly in favor of organizing a Government entirely independent of the United States; believing from the distance and obstacles which intervene between the two countries, that it would be impossible for the United States to render them that efficient support which they require.

VIRGINIA.

An exciting controversy is now going on in this State, about the call for a Convention to remodel her State Constitution. Equal representation seems to be the bone of contention. Eastern Virginia insisting upon her negro population being included in the apportionment, and Western Virginia taking the Republican stand that free white population alone should be represented.

J. N. MAFFIT.

This talented divine and orator, is now lecturing at the Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

HEALTH.

From all parts of the County where sickness has prevailed to any extent, we learn that the health of the citizens is improving.

C—The St. Charles Advertiser says that the house of Dr. Thompson, of St. Charles, was struck by lightning upon the 16th inst., and a young man by the name of Cissell, instantly killed.

GOOD!

The grand jury in Boston, have found true bills against those publishers and booksellers who have been engaged in the publishing and selling of De Kock's works.

FLOUR.

The writer of the Commercial articles for the New York Morning News, in that paper of the 6th says:

"We have said that the last year was one of deficient harvests in many sections of the country, notwithstanding that known fact, however, the prices of flour in New York were never so low for the same length of time as they have been in the first six months of the present year.

Here we have the remarkable fact that so redundant are the crops of this country become over the wants of the entire population, that notwithstanding a deficient harvest in many large sections, the price has fallen to rates lower than ever, and are now on the eve of a most abundant harvest at a point below which they have never fallen. From these facts the peculiar distress of those farmers whose crops being short have brought but low prices, may be estimated. Under these circumstances prices of all descriptions of produce cannot but be very low. Yet these low prices must yield to an extension

of export. The condition of the mass of the farmers will doubtless be improved, inasmuch as that the more substantial may reserve their crops and the others will have something to sell, although at low rates."

N. P. WILLIS.

Late of the N. Y. Mirror, is now in Europe dealing out in "broken doses" to his American readers the foibles and follies of English high life. He is prosituting his own talents and degrading the American character. The remarks copied from the St. Louis New Era, may fit him well:

"American travellers who live around the gentry of Europe and retail out the scandal and gossip of the corrupt society of that country, are calculated to have a pernicious influence upon the morals and manners of the people of the United States. They bear a strong resemblance to the English travellers who come over to this country, and after making a hasty eve's drooping journey through the country hasten to publish volumes of silly, insipid nonsense, and grossly misrepresent the country through which they have passed.

We are sensible of no character more contemptible than that of an American frenzied sneaking about among the nobility and aristocracy of England, seeking admittance into their upper circles, fishing for an introduction at court, in order that he may publish his infamy to the world, and then when he returns, boast of his intimacy with lords, earls, and sprigs of nobility. The writings of Troope, Marvatt, Hall, and other English travellers, are bad enough; but when a free independent America undertakes to play the same disgraceful game, it is far more humiliating and mortifying to this country,

FLORIDA.

William H. Brookesburgh, Jr., and E. C. Calvert, while on the candidates for Congress in this State.

A R. M.

Much sickness is said to prevail among the U. S. troops lately sent to Texas.

C—Another contract strike, probably all Americans on first landing—that of fowling-dress. The entire absence of the monumental—of any kind indeed, except decent covering—in all classes below the wealthy, especially Englishmen! I particularly in America. I don't believe you would find ten female servants in N. Y. without their having a bustle! Yet I saw as many as two hundred women in the streets of Liverpool, and not one with a bustle! I saw some ladies get out of a carriage who wore them, so that it is not because it is not the fashion, but simply because the pride (of these whose backs form but one line) does not weigh the price of the bustle.—[With us in Liverpool.

To be without them is decidedly un-American, as we saw something less than two thousand of all shapes and sizes, from No. 4 to 13, a few days since.

Bishop Onderdonk.—An intelligent correspondent of the Boston Post, who writes from N. Y. says: "We are soon to have exciting times in this Episcopal diocese. From the time that Bishop Onderdonk was suspended, up to this hour, the friends of that prelate have been resolutely engaged in an effort to sustain him, and to continue him in possession of his bishopric. And they have not laboured in vain. He will, I think, be reinstated, and wear once more his robes. I understand he has a decided majority of the clergy in his favor; and among the laity there are many who are determined to sustain him at all hazards. He will very soon preside in the pulpit of Trinity church, and you may depend on it and officiate at its consecration. Thousands who were at one time bitterly opposed to him, and would not listen to any thing that was said in his favor, now assume that he has been abundantly punished, if he was ever guilty—about which they doubt—and should be reinstated and remunerated with all his holy official function. The thing will be done."

C—The following is the closing address of the venerable Dr. Norris, President of Union College, N. York, at the recent commencement of that institution:

"When fifty years more shall have passed away, others will come in here—I shall not be here. Many of you, my dear children, shall not be here—be it so. We shall separate, as brothers, by promotion from the ranks; nor for ever—we shall meet in another world. I have been young, and now am old, yet I desire, that had I to live my life over again, I would live more than I have done for my God and my country. Were I to live over so short a time, even no longer than the mere ephemera floating in the sunbeam would suffice to cover with the eagle and the lion, the stars, than my only reward in the earth with that period."

"Some of you will be alive at that next jubilee when I shall be forgotten. The cold earth shall seem soft on this aged bosom, and the air shall be cold and sensless to the appeals of the poor and distressed. But you, my children, see, it is that, while you live, the poor shall never want a friend, nor the defenceless a defender. And should it be my fortune to return—oh, happy thought!—those mansions of blessedness every one of which is freighted with happiness, and the joyousness of the heart, the happiness of the soul, and the happiness of the body. I shall close these remarks, my children by calling on the unanimous sentiment: 'The Almshouse Union College—*Almshouse et le bonheur des pauvres*—is the best of all charities, and the best of all charities is the best of all charities.'

This old man's words were received with much applause.

The speech was a review of dispositions too long for his time and manner of delivery, which cannot be reported.

C—Another contract strike, probably all Americans on first landing—that of fowling-dress. The entire absence of the monumental—of any kind indeed, except decent covering—in all classes below the wealthy, especially Englishmen! I particularly in America. I don't believe you would find ten female servants in N. Y. without their having a bustle! Yet I saw as many as two hundred women in the streets of Liverpool, and not one with a bustle! I saw some ladies get out of a carriage who wore them, so that it is not because it is not the fashion, but simply because the pride (of these whose backs form but one line) does not weigh the price of the bustle.—[With us in Liverpool.

To be without them is decidedly un-American, as we saw something less than two thousand of all shapes and sizes, from No. 4 to 13, a few days since.

Bishop Onderdonk.—An intelligent correspondent of the Boston Post, who writes from N. Y. says: "We are soon to have exciting times in this

Episcopal diocese. From the time that Bishop Onderdonk was suspended,

up to this hour, the friends of that prelate have been resolutely

engaged in an effort to sustain him,

and to continue him in possession of his bishopric. And they have not

laboured in vain. He will, I think,

be reinstated, and wear once more

his robes. I understand he has a

decided majority of the clergy in his

favor; and among the laity there

are many who are determined to

sustain him at all hazards. He will

very soon preside in the pulpit of

Trinity church, and you may depend on it

and officiate at its consecration.

Thousands who were at one time

bitterly opposed to him, and would

not listen to any thing that was said

in his favor, now assume that he

has been abundantly punished, if he

was ever guilty—about which they

doubt—and should be reinstated and

remunerated with all his holy official

function. The thing will be done."

New Era.

THE ARMY.

If we have an army at all, we should have one organized upon principles, that will be efficient for the purpose for which military is supported. Experience has proved that the prospect of promotion is the great stimulant to efficient service. The common soldier is prompted to do his duty of valor and patriotism when slighted or slighted for. We had some cases of this kind in the Florida war. Emulation was repressed by the silly *pettiness* of some superior officers in rank who were too selfish to permit others to win laurels which he might have deserved, but which he was too cowardly or too dull to merit. We had some cases of this kind in the Florida war. Emulation was repressed by the silly *pettiness* of some superior officers and those who would have ended the conflict on the field, censured and punished for their commendable energy and daring. It is time to have done with all this folly and misrule. It has seldom been witnessed in the volunteer service, but has often proved injurious to the regular army. Some of the officers had brought up West Point, who were the most annoyed and censured Washington, are the veterans in the army, and those whom the people would follow to the last extremity.

But the country relies, and always must rely, in time of danger, on the regular army. The frequent changes of command do not improve the regular army, but rather deteriorate it.

Was such a condition of things ever considered in a Republic? The experience of the last thirty years in Europe demonstrates that Generals must be found in the ranks that nature makes the General, and that active service alone discovers the qualities necessary to lead a nation in time of war.

With the exception of the regular army, the command of the volunteers is to be placed under the command of any one who can earn the greatest confidence of the nation.

The present military system is really defective, and proper corrections should be applied without delay. The thousands who are ready to shoulder their muskets, and peril their lives for their country, when the hour for action arrives, but who would shun the regular army as they would a poison, certainly contain in their number many who only need a favorable opportunity to develop true military genius. Yet they can never rise, except in a volunteer corps, and consequently they will never j in any other.

They deserve the clemency of justice but the tried and the worthy, and will not serve under an officer who has been censured to command, whether deserving of confidence or not.

The present military system is really defective, and proper corrections should be applied without delay. Let the drones be swept off, and, if necessary—but malevolently—scout the stations for which they are unfit. No healthful reform can be observed in the army until the personal and as less dressiness removed.

If a conflict occurs with Mexico, any other power, the glory of our arms will arise from the conduct of our volunteers. They can be relied upon, after a campaign given them, to be equal to the best officers of the regular army, because with the latter mechanical discipline must supply the place of true courage, until the best officers will be recruited by efficient superiors in command. The most valuable volunteers are those who volunteer, & who do not depend on military parents or on self-interest.

Their knowledge of the military art is acquired in actual service and is eminently practical. Officers should understand every branch of their profession, but at the same time, should not rely solely on length of years for promotion. Many young officers in the regular army, we are confident, are better qualified to lead our forces to victory than some of those whose names are higher up on the list, yet their skill, energy and efficiency will be lost, by enacting the arbitrary rule of seniority. If our protection were to depend upon the results of a single campaign, we should prefer that some of the Colonels or Captains in the service, or some private citizens whom we could trust, should have the command of the army, rather than some of the Generals now bearing the United States commissions. The same rule which obtains in other branches of public service, should be applied to the army, and men placed at its head, and in important commands, who are known to possess all the necessary qualifications therefor. No attention should be paid to mere titular promotions.

The brief Colonel and General has some evidence of his valor and conduct, and it is not too old, infirm or incapable, should be trusted sooner than on the army as its officers, regardless of their individual merits, to squander the cause of our country.

Some Generals have been *brought* promptly to the scene of danger, and for services which others performed, or for acts which, when pro-

perly considered, should have caused them to be *awarded*. There are many who, from the long continuance of peace, have had no opportunity of showing to the country that they are equal to the most trying emergencies, but who need only such an opportunity, to give convincing proofs of their genius. The present system is based on formal regulations, which close the door against merit among the rank and file, whilst those who can command court influence, reap the honors which would be more worthily bestowed elsewhere. Let us have a better & more efficient system; and the present is the time for thorough reform.

Mo. Reporter.

AN INCIDENT OR TWO.

Strewns have their troubles, as well as other folks. Like doctors, printers and merchants, they have to turn round very often for nothing.—The dear people have been told that it is no trouble to show goods; till they believe it. See what it coming to.

On her last trip up the Missouri, the obliging Henry Bry, was followed by a green looking customer at an obscure landing, and rounded to, supposing he wanted to take a passage. The boat swung round, pulling hours and impatience.

"Hello, Captain?"

"Coming shortly." "No, but I thought may be somebody there *meant* to travelling up to have *Hemp*; and I'd *just* *got* *you*!"

The Henry Bry gave a snort and a holler, enough to start her, and got under way at once—the great unlauged hemp-man *wearing* that she had *no* *connection* *in* *her*.

Captain Lake had nearly forgotten the infant, when, some distance from Glasgow, defendant's old mother—a woman w^t a *curious* *standing* on the river bank, beckoning, as it seemed, most *feebly*, but with an *air* and *hand* and *head* and *eyes* *beaming* of confidence, or *nothing*.

The present military system is really defective, and proper corrections should be applied without delay. Let the drones be swept off, and, if necessary—but malevolently—scout the stations for which they are unfit. No healthful reform can be observed in the army until the personal and as less dressiness removed.

If a conflict occurs with Mexico, any other power, the glory of our arms will arise from the conduct of our volunteers. They can be relied upon, after a campaign given them, to be equal to the best officers of the regular army, because with the latter mechanical discipline must supply the place of true courage, until the best officers will be recruited by efficient superiors in command.

The most valuable volunteers are those who volunteer, & who do not depend on military parents or on self-interest.

Their knowledge of the military art is acquired in actual service and is eminently practical. Officers should understand every branch of their profession, but at the same time, should not rely solely on length of years for promotion.

Many young officers in the regular army, we are confident, are better qualified to lead our forces to victory than some of those whose names are higher up on the list, yet their skill, energy and efficiency will be lost, by enacting the arbitrary rule of seniority.

If our protection were to depend upon the results of a single campaign, we should prefer that some of the Colonels or Captains in the service, or some private citizens whom we could trust, should have the command of the army, rather than some of the Generals now bearing the United States commissions.

The same rule which obtains in other branches of public service, should be applied to the army, and men placed at its head, and in important commands, who are known to possess all the necessary qualifications therefor. No attention should be paid to mere titular promotions.

The brief Colonel and General has some evidence of his valor and conduct, and it is not too old, infirm or incapable, should be trusted sooner than on the army as its officers, regardless of their individual merits, to squander the cause of our country.

Some Generals have been *brought* promptly to the scene of danger, and for services which others performed, or for acts which, when pro-

perly considered, should have caused them to be *awarded*. There are many who, from the long continuance of peace, have had no opportunity of showing to the country that they are equal to the most trying emergencies, but who need only such an opportunity, to give convincing proofs of their genius. The present system is based on formal regulations, which close the door against merit among the rank and file, whilst those who can command court influence, reap the honors which would be more worthily bestowed elsewhere. Let us have a better & more efficient system; and the present is the time for thorough reform.

Mo. Reporter.

A *Good* *Toaster*—Woolson.—The *joyful* *year* *of* *infancy*, the